

A Consumer's Guide to Backflow Prevention

Pleasant Valley Mutual Water Company

What is a Cross-Connection?

A cross-connection is any actual or potential link between your drinking water system and a possible source of contamination (such as irrigation systems, pools, or chemical sprayers). If backflow occurs, pollutants or contaminants can be pulled into the public water supply.

What is Backflow?

Backflow happens when water flows in the opposite direction from its normal course, often due to a sudden change in water pressure. This reversal can allow contaminants to enter the clean water supply.

Why is Backflow Prevention Important?

Backflow prevention is essential for:

- Protecting public health by keeping contaminants out of the drinking water supply.
- Ensuring compliance with the California Cross-Connection Control Policy Handbook (CCCPH).
- Maintaining safe and reliable service for all Pleasant Valley customers.

Common Cross-Connections

Some of the most common risks for backflow include:

- Landscape irrigation systems.
- Swimming pools and spas.
- Hose attachments used for fertilizers or pesticides.
- Fire sprinkler systems.
- Auxiliary water supplies such as wells.

How Can Backflow Be Prevented?

- Install approved backflow prevention assemblies at cross-connections where required.
- Test your backflow prevention assembly annually to ensure it is working properly.
- Hire a certified tester—only testers registered with Pleasant Valley Mutual Water Company (or our designated contractor) may perform testing.
- Repair or replace faulty devices immediately if they fail testing.

Testing Backflow Prevention Assemblies

- State regulations require annual testing of all backflow prevention assemblies.
- Testing must be performed by a certified tester.
- Test results must be submitted to Pleasant Valley Mutual Water Company.
- A fee for testing, inspection, and administrative costs will appear on your water bill.

How Pleasant Valley Helps

- Our Cross-Connection Control Specialist monitors and enforces compliance with state regulations.
- We coordinate annual testing and provide reminders to help you stay in compliance.
- We maintain records to ensure the integrity of the public water supply.

Want to Learn More?

For more information about Pleasant Valley's Backflow Program, contact us:

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